

days were generally much better qualified for their work than the women. We had surprisingly good nurses in those days. If I should permit myself, I could tell you almost without limit, stories of the old nurses who were here twenty-five years ago, stories of their courage, and of their cowardice; of their devotion and of their neglect; of their worth and of their stupidity; but probably I have occupied enough time with this portion of my subject. I will only add that when I was Resident Physician, in the men's medical ward, I always had to take all the temperatures once a week in the evening, on the "day off" of the Head Nurse, and on every other Sunday. To be sure, at that time temperatures were taken in only a few cases. It will surprise you, too, probably, to know that such a thing as a thermometer in the surgical ward was unknown twenty-five years ago. The thermometer of that day was a heavy, long, regular glass rod, to which an ivory scale was attached. It was not much smaller than some of the window thermometers of to-day, and much more cumbersome than the instrument you use to take the temperature of bath water. Self-registering thermometers were unknown, and we were obliged to manage to have light enough to read the scale while the bulb was still in the axilla, where temperatures were then invariably taken.

(To be continued).

The Report of the Greek Red Cross Society.

THE past two years have been notable ones in the annals of the Greek Red Cross Society, and its report just issued is full of interest. It also records the great loss the Society has sustained in the death of its President, M. Marc Réniéri who has held this office since its foundation, twenty years ago, and has always been foremost in forwarding its good work. The position has been filled by the Archbishop of Athens, the President of the Synod of the Greek Church. A great loss has also been caused to the Society by the death of M. Michel Mélas, also one of the founders of the Society, and an energetic worker on its behalf.

The work of the Society, since the issue of its last report, includes the sending of ambulances and medical appliances to Crete, in charge of medical officers; it also afforded assistance at Athens to the refugees from that distressful island. Then came preparations for aiding the wounded during the coming war, preparations which enabled the National Red Cross to render aid at Larissa, in the Red Cross Hospital at Volo, on the battle field of Velestino, and to the wounded at Dhomokos and Lamia. It also supplied an ambulance at Arta, and hospitals at Carvassara and Patras. In the Hospital at Carvassara some

of the English Sisters—Sisters Tillott, Davies, and Isabel Carter—worked in connection with the Red Cross Staff.

An account is given of the hospital work at Volo, and of the panic which was caused when the evacuation of Larissa, and the retreat of the Greek army on Pharsala was announced. The military governor of Volo advised the administration of the hospital to evacuate it with the wounded. The means of transport, however, were defective, and the Greek Sisters, courageous and devout, did not succumb to the prevailing panic. The wounded with the exception of a dozen serious cases were transferred to a ship, but the order to quit could not be carried out.

The Red Cross Doctors, seeing that a battle at Velestino was imminent, went to this town, where they were soon joined by a part of the personnel of the hospital, as well as by two of the Swiss Red Cross doctors.

They were given full liberty to attend the wounded on the battle-field, and with the assistance of some of the staff from the hospital at Volo, and of the Sisters, rendered aid to some of the soldiers, while part of the division was engaged with the enemy.

On the 24th of April the Greek army being in full retreat the Doctors and Sisters re-entered Volo, which the following day was occupied by the Turks. The administrative council of the Red Cross telegraphed the same day to the mission to quit this town, after placing the wounded on board the "Albanie" with the most important part of their stores. In connection with this episode at Volo are mentioned the names of various ladies as well as of the English nurses, who are reported to have "rivalled one another in their zeal in relieving the sufferings of the sick and wounded."

Other ambulances were also maintained, as well as a hospital ship, the "Thessalie," which conveyed in all 850 of the sick and wounded from Volo, and Aghia-Marina to the Pireus. Another ship, "L'Épire," was placed by the Minister of the Marine at the disposal of another committee, and arranged by it as a hospital ship for the West of Greece. This ship in 24 days made 10 journeys, carrying in all 670 of the sick and wounded.

After the war was over the beneficent work of the Society was still continued in accordance with principles laid down at the third international Red Cross Conference held at Geneva, which empowered the Red Cross Societies to render assistance in times of peace, in humanitarian works in which prompt and organized help was necessary. Athens was filled with refugees who, winter time though as it was, had no home but the streets, and who were in need of the necessaries of life. The Red Cross Society therefore extended its help to these sufferers from the war.

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